

## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING**

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 10, 2017

**TIME:** 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 374A  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### **AGENDA**

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
2. Announcements from Chair
  - Meeting with the Board
3. Announcements from County Library Director
4. Commissioner Items/Comments
5. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
6. Adjournment

***NOTE: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2017 – location TBD.***



**May 10, 2017  
Library Commission Meeting Minutes  
Hall of Administration**

**Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. Chair Corey Calaycay led all attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Quorum was met.

**Commissioners in Attendance** – (13) Chair Corey Calaycay, Jim Allen, Reve Gipson, Herb Hatanaka, David Lesser, Vy Nguyen, Laura Zahn Rosenthal, David Spence, Cynthia Sternquist, Jay Chen, Jim Clarke, Robert Gonzales, and Joy Williams.

**Commissioners Absent** – (7) Bob Archuleta, Martha Arevalo, Lisa Cleri Reale, Nancy Kuechle, Robert Pullen-Miles, Waymon Roy, and Sonny Santa Ines.

**Library Staff in Attendance** – (7) Skye Patrick, Yolanda De Ramus, Barbara Custen, Erika Bonilla, Geraldine Lin, Samangi Mudalige, and Sydneka Moore.

**Board Deputies in Attendance** – (3) Maria Chong-Castillo (SD3), Alison Mendes (SD5), and Megan Moret (SD1).

Approval of the minutes was delayed due to no minutes.

**Announcements from Chair**

Chair Corey Calaycay reported that a new member was appointed to the Library Foundation and he hopes the addition will re-energize and move the Foundation in the right direction. Chair Calaycay said there are people on the Foundation Board who do not attend, so there is great potential for new, more engaged members. He would love to see the Foundation thrive during his time as Commission Chair.

Commissioner Jim Allen reported that the by-laws drafted for Library Commission reflect the need to attain quorum more frequently. They want to modify the City Selection Committee appointees staying strong at 10 but allowing 5 in-large to attend the meeting. They are hoping to complete a new set of by-laws in about a month.

Chair Calaycay said that one challenge stems from the unequal number of libraries per Supervisorial District.

Third District Board Deputy Maria Chong-Castillo said she does not know if there has historically ever been a role that the Supervisors have played with the Foundation. She also argued that the Commission and the Foundation have been too far removed from one another. She suggested consulting other jurisdictions, like the City of Los Angeles, to see how they operate. The relationship between the Commission and the Foundation should be revamped. All Foundation members should be passionate about their service. Recommendations will be forthcoming.

First District Board Deputy Megan Moret suggested looking at attendance to indicate who is passionate. Once that information is provided, she can take it back to Supervisor Solis and help with making recommendations as well.

Chair Calaycay shared that the Library Foundation Board members can get paid for their time. What the Foundation has done is offered matching funds to assist FOL groups, but it needs some strategic planning on the types of projects they can lead on their own, such as:

- Amnesty Program – The Library thanks the Commission for their support of this program.
- Expanded Hours – This will be accomplished at no additional cost.
- Homeless – The Library is trying to secure funding for this effort.
- Fiscal Outlook – The Commission wants to advocate for the Library given the upcoming budget conversations.

Commissioner Jay Chen said he is curious to know about the status of renovations, namely Hacienda Heights and Rowland Heights. Library Director Skye Patrick informed him that Hacienda Heights will open June 19, 2017. Rowland Heights will have a date forthcoming. Some of the dates had to be pushed back because of the Supervisorial transition from Don Knabe to Janice Hahn. During the last year of his tenure, Knabe gave money to renovate many of the Fourth District libraries; the funding came all at once. Many renovations were happening simultaneously but not all could happen at once.

Commissioner Cynthia Sternquist advocated to Board Deputy Megan Moret to continue supporting funds to Temple City. The community looks to the library to provide many services that the city cannot provide. They would like to get more programs into their current library and others.

Commissioner Jim Clarke is very happy and appreciative of the renovations to the Culver City Library, and he is here to listen and learn.

Library Director Patrick stated the Library has two bookmobiles and an urban bookmobile which serves SDs 1,2, and 4. SD4 decided to buy their own eco-friendly bookmobile. SD1 also decided to buy their own. So, the Library may be replacing an old bookmobile with the urban one. The model is changing as funds come in. The Library has increased its mobile presence and service to include three bookmobiles, two Reading Machines, and four MakMos. SD3 is considering funding the fifth MakMo. This would bring the total to ten mobile services.

Patrick also announced that the Library is working with the Office of Immigrant Affairs to create a comprehensive website with information on U.S. Citizenship. There is a possibility of also providing staff support in some locations. The Library is also looking into incorporating the Leamos Language Course to this new website.

Commissioner Herb Hatanaka stated that Patrick has updated services, brought new innovations, and added an array of mobile services countywide. Expectations have been raised in the Library. Despite the more favorable economy, Commissioner Hatanaka wants to be conscious of the sustainability of these services. This is an advocacy issue with the Board Offices.

Library Director Patrick informed the Commission that the Library will increase hours at no increased cost, only a reorganization of staff. As individual entities, it may not seem like much but the overall increase of hours is over 15K.

Mobile service is one of many components used to remove barriers to library services. The main issue is the start-up cost, and the Library has been exploring and securing funding from other resources overall.

The Library will face a structural deficit in a few years but is already seeking ways to sustain the Department. A full update will be given after discussion with the Board Offices. The Library is actively working on dealing with this issue and would like to start the conversation with the Commission.

Commissioner David Spence stated that the City of La Canada Flintridge pays for a yearly program called "One City, One Book." Celebrities, such as Michael Gross (*Family Ties*), support this event. Mr. Gross has been a strong financial supporter of the local libraries.

### **Report from the County Library Director**

County Library Director Skye Patrick announced that the Hacienda Heights Library is opening.

The Library held a concert in the Civic Plaza at the Compton Library to celebrate the achievements of the participants of the Library's DJ Lab: *Compton Turns the Tables*. The audience was impressed with the skills of the youth participants and enjoyed the local celebrity talent. Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas provided refreshments. The weather was cold, but it was an incredible program nonetheless. The youth participants learned DJ skills and built their CV for the industry. The Library is considering offering a second leg of the program to provide a pathway into the industry, even if a short internship. The Library can share pictures from the event. A video documentary, *Trials and Tribulations*, is being developed. The next DJ cohort will be at the South Whittier Library starting in December 2017. Given the positive feedback and increased expectations, the Library would like to make this an annual event. Patrick announced that the concert could be combined with a cookout.

Patrick announced that the Library is discussing book kiosks in senior housing and other facilities, in collaboration with the Department of Mental Health. These would

provide an opportunity for seniors to engage their love of reading and socialize. The Library hopes to increase the social component of access. This may include a self-serve library in mixed-used housing projects. The Library has requested three book kiosks as a pilot.

County Library Chief Deputy Yolanda De Ramus stated that the Library has discussed video conferencing for Commission meetings as a pilot for virtual environments. The pilot locations will be Malibu, La Crescenta, and San Fernando.

### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Corey informed the Library Commission that the budget hearing is next Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Hall of Administration. Please work with staff if you are willing to personally testify to the Board.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ as submitted  
\_\_\_\_\_ as amended

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Cleri Reale, Secretary  
Library Commission